



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service



# News Release

Cooperating with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture  
2301 N Cameron St, Rm G-19 · Harrisburg, PA 17110

**Results** of a recent survey are contained in this release. You can also find it on our site at [www.nass.usda.gov/pa/](http://www.nass.usda.gov/pa/) and click on the Pennsylvania Publications link.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Pennsylvania Sheep Inventory Down 9 Percent

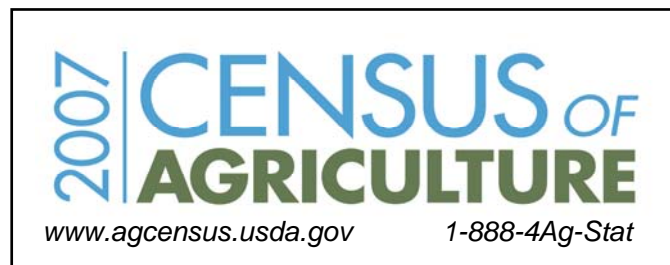
HARRISBURG, PA, Feb 4, 2008 – All sheep and lamb inventory in Pennsylvania on January 1, 2008 totaled 98,000, down 9 percent from the previous year according to the Pennsylvania field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

Total inventory included 66,000 breeding ewes one year old and older, down 19 percent from January 1, 2007. There were 11,000 replacement lambs and 5,000 rams one year old and older, no change for either inventory over the previous year. Market sheep and lambs totaled 16,000 on January 1, 2008, up 45 percent from last year. Of this total, 13,000 were market lambs and 3,000 were market sheep. The 2007 lamb crop of 84,000 head was up from 2006. The 2007 lambing rate was 104 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on hand January 1, 2007, down from 126 lambs per 100 ewes the previous year.

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2008, totaled 6.06 million head, down 2 percent from 2007. Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 4.51 million head on January 1, 2008, a 2 percent drop from 4.61 million head on January 1, 2007. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.62 million head, were 2 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2008 totaled 1.56 million head, which was consistent with the inventory taken on January 1, 2007. Market lambs comprised 95 percent of the total marketings. Of the number of market lambs, 24 percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 14 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 26 percent 85 - 105 pounds, and 36 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 5 percent of total marketings. The 2007 lamb crop of 4.05 million head was down slightly from 2006. The 2007 lambing rate was 111 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2007, down 1 lamb from 2006.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2007 was 34.5 million pounds, down 4 percent from 2006. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 4.71 million head, down 3 percent from 2006. The average price paid for wool sold in 2007 was \$0.88 per pound for a total value of \$30.3 million dollars, up 23 percent from \$24.5 million dollars in 2006.

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